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SENATE—Tuesday, April 24, 2001

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable LIN-COLN CHAFEE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

God of all nations, Father of every tribe, color and tongue of humankind. You have created us to live at peace with one another in Your family. You have revealed to us Your desire that all Your children should be free to worship You. Here in America, freedom of religion is a basic fabric of our life. Sadly, this freedom is not enjoyed in so many places in our world. We are grieved by the shocking accounts of religious persecution. Prejudice expressed in hostility and then in hatred and violence exists throughout the world. As we think of the pain and suffering inflicted on Christians because of their faith, we also are reminded of all forms of intolerance over religion in the world today. We remember the suffering of the Jews in this century. Forgive any prejudice in our own hearts and purge from us any vestige of imperious judgmentalism of people whose expression of faith in You differs from our own. We pray for tolerance in the human family. And may it begin in each of us. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable LINCOLN CHAFEE led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. Thurmond).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE, Washington, DC, April 24, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable LINCOLN CHAFEE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND, President pro tempore.

Mr. CHAFEE thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST-S. 1

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate begin consideration of Calendar No. 23. S. 1, the education bill.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. Mr. President, reserving the right to object. I was here yesterday and again today. I am the ranking member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works. We have reported legislation out of the subcommittee—by the way, the Presiding Officer is the Chair of that subcommittee—we reported out of that subcommittee more than a month ago brownfields legislation. This is legislation that affects 500,000 sites.

I object, and I will at the appropriate time this morning talk more about what I think is so wrong about our inaction in the Senate today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, in light of the objection, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now be in a period for morning business until 12:30 p.m., with the first half of the time designated for the majority leader, or his designee, and the second half of the time controlled by the minority leader, or his designee.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, again reserving the right to object, at an appropriate time, I will withdraw my objection, but I again state to those assembled that it is absolutely wrong that we are going to spend all day today in morning business when we have waiting legislation that affects people in the State of Nevada. We could clean up lightly polluted areas starting this year if we simply move forward on this legislation.

I repeat, we have 500,000 sites in America today that are awaiting action of this Congress. The President of the United States said he supports brownfields legislation. Let us test him to find out if he does. I think it is absolutely wrong that we are going to spend all day in morning business.

Further, under the proposal my friend from Vermont has propounded, the first 90 minutes will be under the control of the Senator from Vermont or somebody on his side. My friend from North Dakota is here and wishes to speak this morning. Will the Senator allow the Senator from North Dakota to speak for 20 minutes? I do not see anyone here.

Mr. JEFFORDS. I have no objection so long as it is coming out of your

Mr. REID. Yes, of course. I ask unanimous consent, Mr. President, that I be allowed to speak for 5 minutes and that the Senator from North Dakota be allowed to speak for 20 minutes and that the time be taken out of the 90 minutes designated by the unanimous-consent request of the Senator from Vermont.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that at 2:15 p.m. the Senate resume morning business until 5:15 p.m., with Senators speaking for up to 10 minutes each and the time be equally divided in the usual form.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a member of the Senate on the floor.